

A U.S. Central Intelligence Agency aircraft had detected the missionaries' plane and notified the Peruvian air force. American officials say the surveillance crew, however, had advised it appeared, from the way the plane was flying, that it was not a drug smuggling flight.

Bowers, 38, of Muskegon, Mich., was in Pensacola for the funeral and burial Sunday of his wife, Veronica "Roni" Bowers, 35, and their 7-month-old daughter, Charity. He stayed with family in Wake County, N.C., immediately after the shooting.

The couple's 6-year-old son, Cory, also survived uninjured, but the plane's pilot, Kevin Donaldson, 41, of Morgantown, Pa., was wounded.

Bowers spoke to reporters at Marcus Points Baptist Church where the funeral services was held. His wife's parents, John and Gloria Luttig, of nearby Pace, are members of the church, which had helped support the couple's missionary work.

Bowers expressed his forgiveness to all involved at the funeral and during a memorial service Friday at his home church in Michigan. He said Monday he also hopes to talk personally with the Peruvian pilot who fired on their plane.

"I'm looking forward to that some day, but right now, I'm praying for him," Bowers said.

Although insisting he wasn't placing blame, Bowers said the pilot failed to give the missionaries a chance to land before he started shooting.

"I was assuming, because I've watched movies just like you all have, that there would be some kind of communication, they would come up next to us and let us know what they wanted," Bowers told reporters.

The air force plane swooped by a half-dozen times and begin firing only five or 10 minutes after the first pass, he said.

"Any decent air force pilot would give the other aircraft time to understand his intentions," Bowers said. "I just thought this is way too soon for them to be shooting already."

He said he saw a puff of smoke from the front of the warplane and told Donaldson he thought it was shooting at them just as the bullets began ripping through their aircraft. A single bullet instantly killed his wife and daughter.

Bowers said neither he nor anyone else from his family or church has been in contact with the baby's natural parents, but he said they knew she had been killed.

The couple's missionary work also has been supported by Calvary Church in Fruitport, Mich., and the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism, based in New Cumberland, Pa.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina.

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 117

Whereas James and Veronica "Roni" Bowers of Muskegon, Michigan, served as missionaries affiliated with the Calvary Church of Fruitport, Michigan, and the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism;

Whereas the Bowerses conducted their Christian mission work with their children, Cory and Charity, serving the native tribes along the Amazon River in Peru since 1995;

Whereas on Friday, April 20, 2001, the Bowerses were flying in an Association of Baptists for World Evangelism plane piloted by Kevin Donaldson, traveling from the

Peru-Brazil border to the city of Iquitos, Peru, after attempting to secure necessary visa documents for their adopted daughter, Charity;

Whereas the plane was mistakenly attacked by a fighter jet of the Peruvian Air Force in an apparent attempted anti-drug interdiction effort that may have also involved personnel of the United States;

Whereas Roni and Charity Bowers were killed, and pilot Kevin Donaldson was severely injured in the attack;

Whereas Kevin Donaldson, despite his injuries, was able to safely land his plane on the Amazon River, saving the lives of his other passengers; and

Whereas the family, friends, and co-workers of Roni and Charity Bowers have displayed a shining example of their faith and grace in the face of this terrible tragedy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses and conveys its deepest and most heartfelt sympathies to Jim and Cory Bowers and to their extended families, friends, co-workers, and fellow missionaries at the Association of Baptists for World Evangelism, for the loss of Veronica "Roni" Bowers and Charity Bowers in an attack by a fighter jet of the Peruvian Air Force on the plane in which they were traveling;

(2) commends Kevin Donaldson for his heroic actions in safely landing the plane and wishes Mr. Donaldson a speedy and complete recovery from his injuries; and

(3) strongly encourages the Governments of the United States and Peru to work together as expeditiously as possible to determine all the circumstances that led to this unfortunate and regrettable incident and to ensure that an incident of this kind never occurs again.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on House Concurrent Resolution 117.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

ILO CHAMPIONS CAUSE OF WORKERS' RIGHTS AROUND THE WORLD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. BONIOR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, this is a quote:

The failure of any nation to adopt humane conditions of labor is an obstacle in the way of other nations which desire to improve the conditions of their own countries.

□ 1845

Powerful words, and I wish I could claim that they are mine, but they are not. They are from the preamble of the Constitution of the International Labor Organization, which was created 82 years ago.

The United States, of course, was one of the nations which helped form the ILO. And, true to its mission, in the years since, the ILO has championed the cause of workers' rights around the world: the right to organize and bargain collectively; the right to refuse forced labor; the right to reject child labor; and the right to work free from discrimination.

In fact, right now the ILO is mounting a global effort to inform workers of their rights. Versions of this poster to my right, in a variety of languages, are being distributed around the world. You have rights to organize and bargain collectively, to refuse forced labor, to reject child labor, to work free from discrimination.

The ILO is living up to the challenge of fighting for workers' rights. The question is, are we?

Last week in Quebec, the President called for expanding NAFTA and creating a free trade zone stretching from the Arctic Circle to Tierra Del Fuego. We are told it is an opportunity to promote our values and democracy throughout the Americas. Imagine what a source of relief that must be to workers at Chentex, which is a clothing factory in Las Mercedes Free Trade Zone in Nicaragua. Or should I say the "former workers" of this factory, because after they organized a union in 1988, the workers at Chentex had the audacity to ask for a wage increase.

One day they staged a 15-minute work stoppage to protest the company's intransigence. What was the company's response? They fired the leaders of the union. At that point the workers went on strike. What was the company's answer, they forced more than 500 workers from their jobs and then they blacklisted them so they could not work in the free trade zone again.

If you follow the logic presented to us in Quebec, with a Free Trade Area of the Americas, that would not happen. As a result of dealing with American companies, employers like Chentex would see the error of their ways. They would respect workers' rights and bargain fairly. Their managers would stop forcing workers to labor as much as 12 hours a day, and they would not monitor their visits to the bathrooms or any of the other things that happen frequently.

There is only one problem with this theory: It is that the Chentex factory has been trading with the United States companies for years. In fact, they make clothing that is sold today by major U.S. retailers.

We do not practice what we preach. The theory that the President and the so-called free traders advocate has not worked. You do not have to go to Nicaragua, you can go to the free trade